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A BUSINESS PROPOSITION.

AT THE MEETING of the city council Monday night, during an argument regarding the placing on file of the application of the Utah Light & Railway company for a fifty years' extension of its franchise, Councilman Wells, who seems to have constituted himself the champion of the corporation, said: "The Utah Light & Railway company is one of the big taxpayers of the city. It is a home institution and it is entitled to courteous treatment at the hands of this council."

In the first place the fact that the Utah Light & Railway company is a heavy taxpayer, though it does not pay taxes in proportion to the value of its holdings, does not entitle it to any more consideration at the hands of the council than the humblest citizen should receive. In the second place the nature of the corporation's demand deprives it of any rights it may have had to courteous treatment. Let us submit a plain business proposition to the council.

Let us suppose, for instance, that Mr. Wells, seated in his office, not as a councilman, but as a business man, has something which he knows to be worth in the neighborhood of \$2,000,000. The door opens and a prosperous looking citizen walks in. He introduces himself and then plunges at once into something like this:

"Mr. Wells, you have in your possession an article that is worth to me \$2,000,000. Now, I have here in my pocket a simple little thing of no value, particularly, to you, but I believe it to be worth \$100,000. I propose to trade it to you, though you will probably find that it is worthless for your purposes, for your \$2,000,000 article."

Would not the first impulse of Mr. Wells, suave, courteous, gentlemanly though he is, be to kick that prosperous looking citizen out of his office? Would he, as a private man of business, entertain the proposition for an instant? Would he not immediately say: "Why, the idea is absurd, it is not worth considering. My answer is no"? Of course Mr. Wells, private business man, would do that very thing. Why should he not be as careful of the city's interests as of his own?

Why should not all of the members of the city council give to the city's business the same careful thought they would devote to their personal affairs? Have the people no rights which their servants are bound to respect? The motion to file the application of the Utah Light & Railway company should have prevailed. The fact that it did not leads to the conclusion that the councilmen may be preparing to so far forget themselves as to monstrously betray the interests they have sworn to safeguard.

NEGROES AT THE BALL.

A SPECIAL WASHINGTON dispatch says:

"The negroes of this city, arguing that President Roosevelt meant what he said when he declared that the color line must not be drawn at the inaugural ball, are planning a sort of anti-segregational function. The women are going to wear their gaudiest gowns and the men are to be decked out in full evening regalia. Many negroes have already purchased tickets and more will be in line when the event is at hand."

The dispatch does not state whether or not the president will permit the inaugural ball committee to pass a rule requiring the colored guests to check their razors at the door. It is not supposed for an instant, however, that such a rule will be permitted. The chief executive himself has said that the "door of opportunity must not be closed to any man on account of his color."

The ball room door must also swing wide open. By all means let the negroes have their good time. They are citizens of the United States and nearly all of them are Republicans. If they are willing to pay for tickets to the inaugural ball they should not be denied the privilege. Meanwhile, all the country outside of Washington will be pardoned if it does not resist the temptation to smile audibly.

A WISE ACTION.

WE CONGRATULATE the Utah house of representatives on its wisdom in defeating an amendment to a pending measure which, if adopted, would have made the state board of equalization a strictly partisan affair. The law provides that at least one of the three members of the board shall be of a different political faith from the other two. Ever since the first government was organized the value of an active minority has been recognized.

Wherever there have been governments entirely by one party or by one organization the results have been graft and corruption and fraud. With a watchful minority always present the possibilities of fraud are reduced to a minimum. It is true that the majority can pass obnoxious measures, it can vote money to its favorites and it can maintain a ruinous policy. But the minority may be depended upon to keep the people informed, and sooner or later the corrupt majority is turned out of office.

We do not charge that if all the various boards of the state should become strictly partisan an era of corruption would be inaugurated. We do say that the temptation to corruption would be vastly greater than if the minority representation is continued. And there is another feature that seems to us to be worth considering. There should be no partisanship in the administration of a public trust.

No single party in this state pays all the taxes or contains all of the good citizens. If one side is to have no voice in the government it should not be required to contribute to the support of the government. We believe thoroughly in the principle that the majority should rule. In all first class governments it is the majority that rules. But that in no way eliminates the theory that the minority should have representation.

CLEWS ON RATE-MAKING.

OUR OLD FRIEND, Henry Clews, is so averse to the notion that the interstate commerce commission should have the power to fix railroad rates that he has sent out a letter on the subject. Among other things Mr. Clews says:

"Probably the most serious thing that could now happen to the railroad interests would be the passage of a rate-making bill." Then he adds:

"Such an enactment would be an encroachment by the government upon individual rights. No commission that can be organized would be competent to deal with such a vast and complicated piece of work. It might as well attempt to fix the price of butter and eggs."

Our railroads pay about \$60,000,000 a year in wages. Should the government fix the rate the loss would fall chiefly upon labor. Another class would suffer under such a policy—millions of stockholders.

Mr. Clews believes it is all right for the secretary of the United States treasury to come to the aid of Wall street stock gamblers when they are about to be plucked by their compatriots. Hasn't the man who has the other fellow in the corner the "individual right" to squeeze out of him the last dollar possible? Does not the government encroach on those rights when it prevents the squeeze?

If a great trust should corner all the butter and eggs in the country and attempt to sell them at exorbitant rates we have no hesitation in expressing the belief that the government would be right if stepped in and fixed the price of butter and eggs. And the only railroad bill that has been seriously considered provides merely that the interstate commerce commission shall have the power to correct "unreasonable or unjustly discriminatory rates."

OUR CREDIT IS GOOD.

THE SALE of the water bond issue of \$1,000,000 to the Mutual Life Insurance company at a premium of \$15,100 is a matter for congratulation to all the people of this city. The incident shows that the credit of Salt Lake City is very high indeed among investors. Few cities of this size, especially those having prior bonded indebtedness, could dispose of such a large issue of 4 per cent bonds at so satisfactory a figure.

There were financial experts who said that the city would experience great difficulty in selling the bonds at any price, and that certainly less than par must be accepted. The agents of the bond buyers who congregated for the issue were of this opinion, for in every instance their figures were below par. It should be explained, however, that these gentlemen buy bonds for the purpose of selling them again, and not to hold as investments.

One of them is quoted as saying that the bid of the Mutual Life company was higher than they expected to sell the bonds at. That, though, is a matter for conjecture. The Mutual may be depended upon to know what it is doing in this matter. It wants the bonds to hold as an investment and it knows they are as safe as bonds of the government. The interest will not amount to a great deal, but it will be sure and regular.

Some people will say that it is a first class advertisement for the Mutual to buy Salt Lake City bonds, but we submit that it is just as good an advertisement for Salt Lake City. When a conservative life insurance company that must protect the interests of its policy holders comes to this city for bonds it is an indication to other investors that Salt Lake's securities are as good as minted gold.

Was it a case of "Te mortari salu-tamus" with Senator Kearns?

In the meanwhile the Japs are making figures highly interesting for Kuropatkin along the Shikha river.

The sultan of Turkey has ordered thirty gunboats. He must be preparing to defer payment to some of his numerous creditors.

However, there is nothing in the proposed new fish and game law to prevent your friend from giving you a brace of ducks if he feels so inclined.

Mr. Niedringhaus, who will never be a senator from Missouri, has released his supporters with the understanding that they will never, never vote for R. C. Kereza. As the Kereza men will never vote for a candidate selected by the Niedringhaus supporters, the entire legislature should do the graceful thing by compromising on Francis Marion Cockrell.

SOCIETY.

The Salt Lake colony in Los Angeles was entertained last Saturday in a party by Mrs. J. Ross Clark in a private car trip to Riverside, dinner at Glenwood tavern and a drive through the orange groves. Mrs. Clark was the hostess, and the guests were: Mr. and Mrs. David Keith, Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Newell, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Knox, Colonel E. F. Holmes, Colonel D. C. Adams, C. O. Whittemore, Fisher S. Harris and L. H. Farnsworth, all of Salt Lake, Mr. and Mrs. J. Will Clawson and Miss Louise Clawson of San Francisco, Mrs. H. J. Rivers, Mrs. Garney, Mrs. McMillan of Los Angeles, and Mr. and Mrs. McDonald of Butte.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Moyle entertained the members of the Aud Lang Synagogue at their home last evening. The hours were spent quite informally, some fine music being furnished and an interesting game played. Late in the evening a buffet supper was served.

Mr. and Mrs. John Delano entertained at a dinner last evening in compliment to Miss Eleanor Landell Fox of Philadelphia. The color used in decoration was red, carnations and shades of that tone being used.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Peabody entertained a few friends Saturday evening at their home.

C. P. Blyth of Evanston has returned from a trip to New York and is with Dr. and Mrs. J. T. Keith at the Keith apartment house.

Mrs. Richard Savage will entertain informally Friday afternoon.

Mrs. J. Walcott Thompson will entertain a few friends at bridge this afternoon in her apartments in Whitehall.

Mrs. Ellsworth Daggett gives a bridge party Thursday afternoon in compliment of Mrs. Moses Kirkpatrick.

Mrs. S. R. Sturgis of Fort Douglas gives a luncheon Friday, followed by bridge.

Miss Ada Dusenberry of Provo is spending a few days with friends in the city.

Miss Miriam Nelke will be the guest of Mrs. E. A. Wedgwood during her stay in the city.

Mrs. Waldfoeg, with her daughter, Mrs. E. E. Gray, and children, left yesterday for Portland, Ore. which will be their future home. Mr. Gray preceded them three weeks.

Mrs. William A. Wetzel is preparing an opera to be given some time in the spring, called "The Crowning of the Gypsy Queen." The play will require a large number of singers and is said to be filled with good music and clever situations.

Miss Nellie Pearsall has returned from a visit of three weeks with friends in Butte.

Dr. and Mrs. G. B. Pfouts will entertain some friends at a dancing party tomorrow evening.

Mrs. LeGrand Young and the Misses Young will entertain tomorrow afternoon in honor of Mrs. Joseph H. Young, who leaves shortly for Denver.

Miss Nell Cullen entertained at a linen shower yesterday for Miss Sadie Merrill.

Mrs. Shaw and daughter, Miss Pearl, left yesterday for Portland, Ore., which place will be their future home.

The Council of Jewish Women entertained its friends at a card party at the B. B. rooms yesterday.

Mrs. H. A. Johnson returned Monday from a visit of some weeks with relatives in Nebraska.

Songs of Schooldays.

(J. W. Foley in New York Times.)
Recalls I flect her brother she is soar
and sez her luv is dadd foreavermore
and wot makes her kindness seem thee
wurst
Is weni I no her brother him mee furs
wot wu never him and I can talk
these nims he cawid mee fore her own
deer saik
but weni he went ant him me I four-
cast
he wuz her brother-tho I never out
uv likt him kwite so badd an brook his
nose
but his too lait to tel her I suppos.

Ann henry beamus sead she sead I flect shee
kood be a boy sheed maik it holt fore
mee
for Ilek him, shee duzent seem too no
he blackt mi eye befor I flect him so
if I kood ever speke too hur ant tel
mi seide it an sho mi eye a shid
shee nite be sorrie fore these words shee
saik
but weni shee seazs mee now shee turns
ann turns her nose upp like a kwene, ann
wenn
I tri too no mi eye shee goen agen.

hee neavur bult her kannidy ur lekream
us I hax dunt yett over happle dreme
is broken an luvz bubbel it has burst
seavuz I flect him weni he hit mee furs
I woud uv bin her loil faithful furs
but now I le be a hurmit inn a kavi
Ann seide om skims any lett and hare
gro long.
Ann sunday wenni shee seaze thatt shee
thatt find mee layen dadd inn sm farr
hind
with her sweite pickcher inn mi koad
dell hand.

Pointed Paragraphs.

(Chicago News.)
To make hens lay in winter—hit them on the head with a brick.

Savages hunt for a living and civilized men hunt for easy jobs.

The more a man preaches to his neighbors the less they practice.

The man who doesn't worry is entitled to a lot of credit he never gets.

Many a man who is too honest to steal borrows and forgets to pay back.

When crankiness renders a man happy he cares not who calls him a crank.

The Lord has more respect for an honest sinner than for the praying hypocrite.

A woman imagines that her husband would save a lot of money if he didn't smoke.

If people could exchange troubles there would be just as much kicking as there is in a horse trade.

Most men dislike to visit their relatives as much as their relatives dislike to have them visit.

A woman would rather have a man lie than tell the truth when he has occasion to speak of her personal appearance.

A Contented Man.

(New York Sun.)
"Not that I'm any walking physical culture-advertisement," mused the man before the mirror, "but I'm not as bad as I might be at that."

Keith O'Brien

COMPANY

The People Are With Us

Astonishing Shoe Values!



The fast approach of Spring makes imperative the immediate reduction of our splendid shoe stock.

We are preparing for summer on a magnificent scale and must have room.



All of our well known \$5.00, \$6.00 and \$7.00 Shoes, NOW—

\$3.50

All our regular \$3.00 Shoes, NOW—

\$2.15

A big collection of Children's Shoes, sizes up to 2. Regular \$2.00 value, at—

\$1.25

All our regular \$2.50 Shoes, NOW—

\$1.85

Attacked By a Mob

And beaten, in a labor riot, until covered with sores, a Chicago street car conductor applied Bucklen's Aftershave, and was soon sound and well. "I use it in my family," writes G. J. Welch of Tekonsha, Mich., "and find it perfect." Simply great for cuts and burns. Only 25c at Z. C. M. I. drug department.

There will be a meeting of the board of directors of the Ladies' Literary club at 10:30 Thursday morning.

Songs of Schooldays.

(J. W. Foley in New York Times.)
Recalls I flect her brother she is soar
and sez her luv is dadd foreavermore
and wot makes her kindness seem thee
wurst
Is weni I no her brother him mee furs
wot wu never him and I can talk
these nims he cawid mee fore her own
deer saik
but weni he went ant him me I four-
cast
he wuz her brother-tho I never out
uv likt him kwite so badd an brook his
nose
but his too lait to tel her I suppos.

Ann henry beamus sead she sead I flect shee
kood be a boy sheed maik it holt fore
mee
for Ilek him, shee duzent seem too no
he blackt mi eye befor I flect him so
if I kood ever speke too hur ant tel
mi seide it an sho mi eye a shid
shee nite be sorrie fore these words shee
saik
but weni shee seazs mee now shee turns
ann turns her nose upp like a kwene, ann
wenn
I tri too no mi eye shee goen agen.

hee neavur bult her kannidy ur lekream
us I hax dunt yett over happle dreme
is broken an luvz bubbel it has burst
seavuz I flect him weni he hit mee furs
I woud uv bin her loil faithful furs
but now I le be a hurmit inn a kavi
Ann seide om skims any lett and hare
gro long.
Ann sunday wenni shee seaze thatt shee
thatt find mee layen dadd inn sm farr
hind
with her sweite pickcher inn mi koad
dell hand.

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A Contented Man.

Eye Comfort

is just as necessary, if not more so, than any other comfort. To obtain ease, get glasses that are made right and correctly fitted. WE DON'T LET ANY GLASSES GO OUT OF OUR STORE UNLESS THEY MEET THE REQUIREMENTS. WE MAKE GLASSES. EYES TESTED FREE.

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With all of the brilliant costumes, sumptuous scenery, bewildering dances, catchy music, transformations and special cast. Special orchestra.

Prices—25c to \$1.00. Mat., 25c to \$1.00.

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"WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES."

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America's greatest Basso

MISS W. C. E. SEEBECK, Pianist

MRS. ELIZABETH BLAMERE.

Soprano

Full programme will be announced later. Season ticket holders entitled to reserved seats.

PRICES: Reserved seats, \$1.00; general admission, 50c.

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THREE CROWN
Flavoring Extracts
They taste like you like them to taste.
They are perfectly pure and healthful.
YOUR GROCER SELLS THREE CROWN.
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DR. HYATT

wants to get another observation station established in Utah, so the papers say. What we need is someone to run the one we've got, who knows when to hand out mild weather. We don't think Dr. Hyatt knows when winter begins and summer ends.

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JEWELRY STORE
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REASONABLE PRICES

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YOUR
GROCER
WHAT HIS
CUSTOMERS
SAY ABOUT
PEELEY BROS.
WHEAT FLAKES.
WE SAY
IT IS
THE BEST
THERE IS.

THE GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT

IN THE
History of Paint Making is the
Production of Our